

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Rainer Ohlinger et al.
FOR : **METHOD FOR PREPARATION OF A
POLYOLEFIN FOIL AND ITS UTILIZATION**
SERIAL NO. : Unknown
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Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2518
April 9, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully request amendment of the application as follows. A clean copy of the claims appears below and a marked-up version is set forth as an Appendix.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) Method for the preparation of an embossed foil from a mass including non-interlaced polyolefins and optional additives, the method comprising treating said mass with electron beams and achieving a grained foil with a density of approximately 0.7 to 1.2 g/cm³ and deep drawing the grained foil.

3. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein an interlacing auxiliary is included in the mass.

4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 3, wherein trimethylpropantriacylate is selected as interlacing auxiliary.

5. (Amended) Method according to claim 3 wherein trimethylolpropantriacylate is employed in a quantity of up to 20% by weight in proportion to the contents of the mass of non-interlaced polyolefins.

6. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein a stabilizer is included in the mass.

7. (Amended) Method according to Claim 6, wherein stabilizers in the mass comprise phenol derivatives, lactones, phosphites and/or sterically inhibited amines in a quantity of up to approximately 5% by weight.

8. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the electron beam treated foil has a thickness of approximately 0.2 to 2.0.

9. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the treatment with electron beams is effected at a beam dosis of approximately 10 to 500 kJ/m².

10. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the treatment of the foil with electron beams is effected to such extent that a gel contents of approximately 5 to 80% appears in the radiated foil.

11. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the radiated foil is embossed.

12. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the radiated foil is laminated to form a composite structure.

13. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the radiated foil or the composite structure containing same is deep drawn to a shaped body.

14. (Amended) Method according to Claim 13, wherein the deep drawn shaped body is utilized as interior lining of motor vehicles, in particular as dashboard foil.


15. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the foil obtained in the traditional manner is further processed according to an embossing and/or laminating process, prior to treatment with electron beams.

16. (New) Method according to claim 8 wherein the electron beam treated foil has a thickness of approximately 0.4 to 1.4 mm.

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be entered prior to substantive examination of the application. The subject amendments are created to place the application in accord with traditional U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **EXPRESS MAIL** in an envelope numbered **EL 852783322 US** addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 9, 2001.

By: 

Georjeen B. George

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9. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 8, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the treatment with electron beams is effected at a beam dosis of approximately 10 to 500 kJ/m².

10. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the treatment of the foil with electron beams is effected to such extent that a gel contents of approximately 5 to 80% appears in the radiated foil.

11. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the radiated foil is embossed.

12. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the radiated foil is laminated to form a composite structure.

13. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 12, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the radiated foil or the composite structure containing same is deep drawn to a shaped body.

14. (Amended) Method according to Claim 13, [characterized in that] wherein the deep drawn shaped body is utilized is interior lining of motor vehicles, in particular as dashboard foil.

15. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that] claim 1 wherein the foil obtained in the traditional manner is further processed according to an embossing and/or laminating process, prior to treatment with electron beams.

16. (New) Method according to claim 8 wherein the electron beam treated foil has a thickness of approximately 0.4 to 1.4 mm.